By the King.

A Proclamation against the vnneceſſary waſte of Gunpowder.

HE Kings moſt Excellent MAIESTIE, obſeruing the exceſſiue waſte, and conſumption of his Maieſties Powder, vnder pretext of Salutations, and other needleſſe Ceremonies, growen into cuſtome, and vſed in his Maieſties Caſtles, Block-houſes, and Forts, and alſo in his Shippes and Fleetes, which at all times are needleſſe and ſuperfluous, but in theſe times of Action are no way fit to bee continued, when there is ſo much vſe of Powder to bee employed for Seruices of neceſſity: For reformation of which abuſe, and preuenting the like for the future, his Maieſtie by the Aduice of his Priuie Councell, doeth hereby ſtraitly charge and command, that from henceforth all Commanders, Captaines, and Officers, of or in any Caſtles, Blocke-houſes, or Forts, doe carefully obſerue, that they ſuffer no expence or Waſte of Powder, to be made in that kinde, or any Shot at all to bee made, in, or from ſuch Caſtle, Blocke-houſe, or Fort, otherwiſe then in Fight with his Maieſties enemies, or as a Warning Peece vpon diſcouery of any enemies, or for ſtaying of any Shippes or Veſſels by ſufficient Warrant, or for the defence of any the Ships or Veſſels of his Maieſtie, his Subiects, Friends or Allyes, comming within the protection of any his Maieſties ſaid Caſtles, Blocke-houſes, or Forts: His Maieſtie doeth alſo ſtraitly charge and command all Admirals, Viceadmirals, Rereadmirals, Captaines and Officers, of, or in any of his Maieſties Fleetes and Ships, that they neither make, nor ſuffer to be made, any Shot from any his Maieſties Ships, or from any Ship or Veſſell in his Maieſties ſeruice, otherwiſe then for Warning, or in Fight, or for intercepting or arreſt of any Forraigne Ships, or vpon aſſault of any his Maieſties enemies, or in caſe of diſtreſſe, or in the defence or protection of any his Maieſties Ships, or his Subiects, Friends, or Allyes, without ſpeciall authority, or inſtructions in that behalfe giuen, or deriued from his Maieſtie, or from the Lord high Admirall of England, vpon paine, that whoſoeuer ſhall preſume to diſobey, or neglect this his Maieſties Royall Commandement, ſhall be put from their ſeuerall and reſpectiue Commands, Offices, and places in which they ſerue, and vpon ſuch further puniſhments, as by the Lawes of this Realme, or by his Maieſties Prerogatiue Royall may be inflicted vpon the offenders.

Giuen at Our Court at Whitehall, the tenth day of February, in the third yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God ſaue the King.

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